

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SAM-01 IO-14 DRC-01 SAJ-01

ACDA-19 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /138 W
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P R 230915Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6541

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11553

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, IT, GR, TU, NATO

SUBJECT: ITALIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD GREEK WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO

REF: STATE 184053 (NOTAL)

1. POLITICAL DIRECTOR AMBASSADOR DUCCI HAS INDICATED TO THE DCM THAT THE ITALIANS BELIEVE IT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO BRING GREECE BACK INTO THE MILITARY ORGANIZATION OF THE ALLIANCE. DUCCE SAID THAT IN HIS VIEW A COMBINATION OF CARROT AND STICK TACTICS ON BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY MAY HAVE THE BEST CHANCE OF SUCCESS. THE ITALIANS SUPPORT THE UK EFFORTS TO START THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS AGAIN.

2. THE ITALIANS ARE SOMEWHAT IRRITATED THAT THE FRENCH HAVE BECOME SO SOLICITOUS OF GREECE IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. DUCCI SPECULATES THAT THE FRENCH WHO HAVE BEEN ISOLATED FOR SO LONG WOULD WELCOME GREECE INTO THEIR SPECIAL CATEGORY WITHIN THE ALLIANCE.

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THE ITALIANS ARE DISTURBED BY THE REDUCTION OF NATO'S MILITARY

CAPABILITY IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN IF GREECE PERSISTS IN ITS PRESENT COURSE. DUCCI SAID THE ITALIANS WOULD TRY TO DIS-SUADE THE FRENCH FROM A ROLE DESIGNED TO KEEP THE GREEKS FROM COMING BACK INTO THE MILITARY ORGANIZATION.

3. ON THE QUESTION OF ITALIAN SOCIALIST ATTACKS AGAINST THE ALLIANCE AND PARTICULARLY WARNINGS THAT ITALY SHOULD NOT ACCEPT TRANSFER OF US BASES FROM GREECE, WE LEARNED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER MORO HAS DECIDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT ENGAGE IN PUBLIC DEBATE ON THIS ISSUE AT THIS TIME. THERE HAS BEEN OF COURSE NO REQUEST TO MOVE US BASES IN ITALY AND MORO APPARENTLY BELIEVES IT BETTER THAT THE GOVERNMENT NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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